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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIROKAZU KAWAMOTO, ET AL.

Application No.: 09/995,724

Filed: November 29, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR CONTROLLING USER
INTERFACE

Examiner: Woo, Isaac M.

Group Art Unit: 2172

April 23, 2004

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APR 28 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 23, 2004, Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the Group I claims, namely Claims 1 to 24. The Restriction Requirement is, however, traversed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

April 23, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Michael K. O'Neill (Registration No. 32,622)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

April 23, 2004

Date of Signature

Traversal is on the ground that there would not be undue burden in examining three groups of claims in a single application. In particular, MPEP § 808 makes clear that in order to require restriction between independent or distinct inventions, reasons for insisting upon a restriction requirement, such as undue burden, must also be shown. In the present instance, it is not believed that there would be an undue burden in examining the claims of Groups I, II, and III in a single application, since the three groups of claims are not so different as would require a burden on the Examiner that is significantly beyond that of the normal burdens of examination.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

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